

Appl. Answers to Quaint Questions Which Pleased Suvaroff.

The great Russian soldier, Marshal Suvaroff, was in the habit of asking his men difficult questions, sometimes foolish ones, and bestowing favors on those who showed presence of mind in answering him. On one occasion a general of division sent him a sergeant with dispatches, at the same time recommending the bearer to Suvaroff's notice. The marshal, as usual, proceeded to test him by a series of whimsical questions.

"How far is it to the moon?" was the first query.

"Two of your excellency's forced marches," the soldier promptly replied.

"If your men began to give way in battle, what would you do?"

"I'd tell them that just behind the enemy's line there was a wagon load of good things to eat."

"How many fish are there in the sea?"

"Just as many as have not been caught."

And so the examination went on till Suvaroff, finding his new acquaintance armed at all points, at length put a final poser:

"What is the difference between your colonel and myself?"

"The difference is this," replied the soldier coolly. "My colonel cannot make me a captain, but your excellency can."

Suvaroff, struck by his shrewdness, kept his eye upon the man and soon afterward gave him the promotion for which he had hinted.

FROST FAIRIES.

The Wonderful Designs That Window Panes Picture.

When the frost fairies have a material ready for original design they often produce in the hours of darkness most exquisite decorations. The window panes are their drawing paper, and the window frames serve as picture frames on those particular occasions. There are said to be no less than a thousand forms of snow crystals, every one of them of the finest finish and of unimpeachable symmetry. Some are like the patterns in honiton lace, while others are elaborated with geometrical patterns so complex that it is difficult to analyze them. But on the window panes the frost pictures are by no means confined to what are "standard patterns" in snowflakes, but show the most various and dainty schemes of ornament. Some are like starry flowers, set with stars in the center and with starry shoots and comets dying into space around them. Others take the shape of leaves arranged in set form by some human designers. The endive pattern is among the most beautiful, the curves and "motive" being often scarcely distinguishable from those in which a goldsmith of the days of Louis XV. modeled the ornate in which he graced some priceless vase of Jasper or crystal. Scale patterns, like the scales of fishes, with striated lines upon the overlapping disks, wavy patterns, set with stars, fern patterns, moss patterns and formalized sprays of maidenhair are among the choicest on the list.—London Spectator.

Americans on Guard.

There is no record that any such order as "Put none but Americans on guard" was issued by Washington. Those who quote it do not know when it was supposed to have been issued. But it is a fact that on April 30, 1777, in an order issued at Morristown, N. J., for reorganizing the improperly called "Washington's bodyguard" he did say that he thought that men having an interest in the country would be less likely to prove traitors than foreigners. The order continued, "You will, therefore, send me none but Americans." Washington directed that this preference for Americans should not be made known, as he feared it might excite the many foreigners in the army.—Exchange.

How a Miser Selected an Heir.

As like affects like, so it is with misers, and gold will go where gold is. This is strikingly illustrated by the act of a celebrated Greek, one Dicheus Dicheus, a descendant of the Byzantine emperors. This man, by the exercise of extreme niggardliness, managed to amass the sum of \$50,000, an immense fortune in those days. Then came the question to whom should he leave it. One day a distant relative sent him a letter written upon a square inch of paper. This was sufficient. In the fitness of things the parsimonious correspondent became the miser's heir.

Unnecessary.

Cholly—A fellow told me today that I didn't know enough to go in when it rained. Miss Sharp—And what did you say? Cholly—I assumed him it was quite unnecessary, doncher know, because I never go out when it rains.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Expensive.

Father—Yes, I admit my daughter will have a good dowry, but she has very expensive tastes. Lover—You amuse me. What does she ever want that is so very expensive? Father—Well, you for one thing.—Illustrated Bits.

Controlling Herself.

She—I want you to select the ring, dear. He—But I thought you wanted to. She—I did. But I'm afraid we can't afford it.—Life.

Conclusive.

She—What makes you think his advice is good? He—Because he never gives it unless it's asked for.—Detroit Free Press.

There are but three classes of men—the retrograde, the stationary and the progressive.—Lavater.

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SICKROOM TACTICS.

A Successful Nurse Must Be Gentle, Patient and Tactful.

The proper mental atmosphere created in a sickroom is often as important as the remedies given. A nurse should be in touch with her patient—that is, she should be sympathetic and not allow irritability and whims to upset her equanimity. The nurse who can create an atmosphere of repose, who can humor without indulging her patient in all the idiosyncrasies of sick people, has won half the battle. An unsympathetic, impatient nurse will do more to hinder recovery than the lack of remedies. It is not acts and words alone that help or hinder; her very thoughts are as potent as her general conduct, and the sensitive patient will be influenced for good or ill if the nurse were dumb. She should at all times maintain a positive uplifting mental attitude and remember that the patient's irritability or melancholia is justified by her physical condition and is not perverseness.

Gentleness, patience and, above all, tact are the requisites for good and intelligent nursing, and the nurse who lacks these qualities has indeed missed her calling. Patients have often failed to improve simply because they did not fancy their nurse. A nurse must be capable and make herself liked, and it takes only plain fact and a little circumspection to ingratiate herself with the most uninteresting of patients.

THE GYPSIES.

Their Tribes Existed in Europe From Immemorial Times.

Gypsies were found in England about 1771 according to "A Discourse of Sir Thomas More" (1529), but the exact time of their arrival is unknown. They were present in Scotland in 1545, and possibly they were the "Saracens" whose depredations in that country were recorded in 1462 on record.

Bartholomew and other authors believe that gypsies existed in Europe from immemorial times, for they find no account of their crossing the Bosphorus, and no record known to exist of their coming to England or Scotland.

They were better received in these countries than in any other, but so early as 1534 an act was passed requiring the Egyptians to quit the realm under pain of death, a similar act being issued in Scotland in 1541 and at varying periods in most of the European states.

Transportation across the seas was among the milder means adopted, and probably was the cause of much further dispersion of the tribes. Under Henry VIII. gypsies were shipped from England to Norway or France, and from France, so recently as 1802, they were deported to Africa.

UNTIMELY CHEERS.

The Mispread Enthusiasm of an Ex-Corpus in Ireland.

It was the rule in Ireland at one time that after an execution the body should hang an hour, but the sheriff, from mistaken lenity, would on some occasions look away after the prisoner had been turned off, while the friends of the culprit would hold up their companions so that they would not press upon his throat.

When the hour was expired the deceased was put into a cart, which was driven at a gallop along the sony road. One police generally brought the prisoner in. One such recovery was so complete that the resuscitated man sat up in the coffin and gave three cheers.

One of his friends was so shocked at this indecent conduct that he hit the ex-corpus on the head with his shillalah and finished him. The question then arose whether the assassin could be tried for murder, but it was ruled that no man could be successfully charged with the murder of a man who was already dead in law. Pearson's Weekly.

Are Women Really stingy?

Are women meaner in giving than men? It cannot rightly be urged that they are. Women, after all, in buying or in giving are commonly making use of money that others have earned. They have been trustees of other people's money for 2,000 years, and long use has made them careful of their trust. Of course the petty meannesses of a certain kind of woman have afforded infinite opportunities for men's jests and contempt, but those petty meannesses are nothing in comparison with the great meannesses of really sordid men.—London Spectator.

Coast Line of the Philippines.

A geographical magazine makes the interesting statement that the Philippine Islands have a coast line double that of the main part of the United States. The measurement given is 11,444 statute miles, while the total area is stated as 115,026 square miles. In the Philippines there is one mile of coast line to every ten miles of area; in the United States the proportion is 1 to 555. It is said that 3,000 islands and islets can be counted on the charts.—Harper's Weekly.

Betting Among Englishwomen.

The habit of betting among women of the lower class is one which has grown with amazing rapidity, especially in the towns and villages of our industrial districts. And indeed no power of law seems to avail much against the vice.—London Hospital.

When Knighthood Was in Flower.

Citizen—Here, stop fighting that little boy. Chummy—Wot an' me goil lookin' out de window? She'd take me for a quitter.—Butte Inter-Mountain.

"If there were no eating without hunger and no drinking without thirst," said Herbert Spencer, "then would the system be but seldom out of order."

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